

D

LOFTUS
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT
for the Year 1970

of the Medical Officer of Health

T. M. B. ROHAN,
M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b29739378>

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS
OF THE
LOFTUS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1970 the contents of which are in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Health.

The table of classification of the causes of death shows a total of 90 with diseases of the heart and circulation to take its usual first place, with cancer a close second.

The "Meals on Wheels" service continued to do the good work of previous years in caring for the nutrition of the aged people of the district.

In spite of ever increasing requests for treatment the Chiropody service continued its good foot work and is much appreciated by the aged and handicapped people in the area.

The attendance of children at the clinic continued to grow and the immunisation figures for the district remained most satisfactory.

I would like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their encouragement throughout the year.

To the Heads of Departments I am again obliged for their co-operation at all times. To Mr. W. C. Ransom, whose report follows mine, I owe a special debt for his unstinted help in all matters concerning the health of the District.

Finally, I wish to thank the two clerical officers, Mr. R. K. Nuttall and Mrs. J. Wilson who working in the Area Health Office, have contributed to the smooth conduct of affairs.

I am, Mesdames and Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
T. M. B. ROHAN,
Medical Officer of Health

October, 1971

TABLE I
Public Health Officers

Whole Time Officers	Guisborough Urban District	Skelton & Brotton Urban District	Loftus Urban District
Medical Officer of Health who is also Asst. County Medical Officer No. 4. Area N.R.C.C. and School Medical Officer, N.R.C.C.	Dr. T. M.	B. Rohan	
Public Health Inspectors	*Mr. A. T. Pallister	Mr. J. H. Rhodes	*Mr. W. C. Ranson
Additional Public Health Inspectors	Mr. E. Ward	Mr. R. M. Chalmers	Mr. W. Murray Mr. A. S. Kirkwood

*Also Surveyor of the district concerned

County Public Health Staff attached to the Loftus Area

Miss H. M. Bell	Health Visitor/School Nurse
Mrs. B. M. Cunningham	Health Visitor/School Nurse
Miss E. Pressick	District Nurse/Midwife
Miss M. F. I. Gunszt	District Nurse/Midwife
Mr. R. K. Nuttall	Senior Clerk
Mrs. J. Wilson	Clerk typist

SECTION I
Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Population

The Registrar-Generals' estimate of the population of the district in the mid-year 1970 is 8,070 as compared with the 1969 estimate of 8,130.

General Statistics

I am indebted to the Financial Officer of the Council for the following figures:

1. Area of the District in acres	9,974
2. No. of inhabited houses according to the rate books	2,812
3. Rateable Value	£308,676
4. Sum represented by a 1p rate	£3,007

The District consists of the town of Loftus, the industrial communities of Skinningrove and part of Carlin How and the communities of Liverton, Scaling, Easington, Street Houses and Cowbar. The principal industries today are the iron and steel works and agriculture.

TABLE 2 — Vital Statistics

CAUSES OF DEATH

				MALE	FEMALE
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	..	..	..	—	—
Tuberculosis, Other	..	..	..	—	—
Leukemia	..	..	..	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm — Stomach	..	..	..	2	1
Malignant Neoplasm — Lung, Bronchus	..	..	..	6	3
Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc.	..	..	..	3	4
Diabetes Mellitus	..	..	..	1	—
Other Endocrine, etc. Diseases	..	..	..	—	—
Anaemias	..	..	..	1	—
Mental Disorders	..	..	..	—	—
Other Diseases of the Nervous System	..	..	..	2	—
Hypertensive Disease	..	..	..	—	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	..	..	..	1	3
Ischaemic Heart Disease	..	..	..	14	9
Other Forms of Heart Disease	..	..	..	3	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	..	..	..	6	4
Other Disease of Circulatory System	..	..	..	3	1
Influenza	..	..	..	2	1
Pneumonia	..	..	..	5	—
Bronchitis and Emphysema	..	..	..	4	—
Other Disease of Respiratory System	..	..	..	—	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	..	..	..	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	..	..	..	—	1
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	..	..	..	—	1
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	..	..	..	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	..	..	..	—	1
All Other Accidents	..	..	..	6	—
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	..	..	..	—	—
All Other External Causes	..	..	..	—	1
ALL CAUSES	..	..	..	61	39
				—	—

Deaths

The deaths are classified under thirty-six headings based on the Abbreviated List of International Statistical Classification of Diseases, Injuries and Causes of Death, 1948. 100 deaths of residents gave a corrected death-rate of 14.8 per 1,000 of population compared to 11.7 for England and Wales.

TABLE 3

Vital Statistics

			MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Live Births	..	..	78	46	124
Legitimate	..	..	74	42	116
Illegitimate	..	..	4	4	8
<hr/>					
Still Births	..	..	—	—	—
Legitimate	..	..	—	—	—
Illegitimate	..	..	—	—	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age

					MALE	FEMALE
Total	..	..	..	..	1	1
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	—	1
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	1	—

Births

The number of births registered in the district during the year was 124, giving a corrected birth rate of 16.5 per thousand of the population compared to 16.0 for England and Wales.

There were two deaths of infants under the age of one year, giving an infant mortality of 16.1 per thousand live births compared to the rate for England and Wales of 18.2

TABLE 4
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES 1965
(other than tuberculosis)

	All Ages	Under 1 year	1 year	2	3	4	5	10+	15+	25+	35+	45+	65+	All Un-known
Scarlet Fever	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipela	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles	118	8	7	0	13	66	7	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhoid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningo-coccal Infection	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Purpural Pyrexia	..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 5

Tuberculosis

No new case of respiratory tuberculosis and none of non-respiratory tuberculosis were notified during the year. There were no deaths from this disease.

TABLE 6

Immunisation and Vaccination

Immunisation against Diphteria	UNDER 1	1 to 4	5 to 14	TOTAL
Completed	110	19	120	249
Immunisation against Whooping Cough	0 to 4	5 to 14		TOTAL
Completed	129	—	—	129
Vaccination (Smallpox)	PRIMARY		RE-VACCINATION	
	32		37	
Poliomyelitis Vaccination	PRIMARY		REINFORCING	
	129		120	

The General Provision of Health Services in the District

1. Laboratory Facilities

This work is now done at the Public Health Laboratory, Middlesbrough, only the biological test for tuberculosis milk being carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Northallerton.

2. National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951 — Section 47.

There was no procedure taken under these acts during 1970.

SECTION II
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1970
by W. C. Ranson, M.R.S.H.
Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

**To The Chairman and Members of the
Loftus Urban District Council**

MR. CHAIRMAN, MESDAMES AND GENTLEMEN

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the work carried out by my Department, during the year ended 31st December, 1970

Water Supplies

The statutory water undertakers for the district are The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board, who are responsible for the bacteriological examination, sampling and analysis, of the raw water before passing to the distributing mains. The results of these samples, in respect of the reservoir situated within this district, are set out in the following table, supplied by the Board.

TABLE 1
SCALING DAM SUPPLY

Analysis Summary 1st January to 31st December, 1970

Chemical Examination (Results in parts per million except where otherwise stated)

No of samples collected	10	..	..	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	0.04	0.08	0.01
Albuminoid Nitrogen	0.06	0.11	0.01
Nitrite Nitrogen	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
Nitrate Nitrogen	<0.25	0.35	<0.25
Oxygen absorbed from Permanganate in 4 hrs.						
at 27°C	0.5	1.1	NIL
Colour (Hazen)	1	5	NIL
Turbidity as Silica	1.0	2.4	0.3
pH	7.4	8.0	6.2
Free Carbon Dioxide	3	5	2
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	30	40	5
Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	30	40	5
Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃	25	40	10
Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	< = less than		..	55	70	45
Calcium Hardness as CaCO ₃	than		..	35	45	25
Magnesium Hardness as CaCO ₃	20	30	10
Chlorides as Cl	20	21	17
Silicates as SiO ₂	3	3.5	1.5
Iron as Fe	0.04	0.08	<0.04
Dissolved Solids (dried at 105°C)	125	155	105
Sodium as Na	20	26	13
Potassium as K	0.9	1.0	0.8
Conductivity at 20°C (micromhos)	190	225	150

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION

	Average	Maximum	Minimum
Colony count per ml on yeast extract agar after 1 day at 37°C	<1	7	NIL
Colony count per ml on yeast extract agar after 2 days at 37°C	2	60	NIL
No. of Samples collected for Bacteriological analysis during the period			50
No. of Samples showing No Presumptive coliform reactions per 100 mls			50
No. of samples showing No reaction for E.coli per 100 mls			50

The natural fluoride content of the water supplied by The Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board varies between 0.1 and 0.2 parts per million and further fluoride is not added to the water by the Board.

It is estimated that out of a total of 2,880 dwellinghouses within the district, 2,840 dwellinghouses (providing accommodation for approximately 8,086 persons) are supplied from the piped water mains direct to the houses. There are no dwellinghouses supplied from piped water mains by means of stand pipes. The remaining dwellinghouses are supplied with piped water from small private water supplies and are situated mostly in rural areas near the boundary of the Urban District.

During the year, 62 samples of water were taken from various supply points throughout the district and were submitted for bacteriological examination. 5 of these samples shewed a quality of water below Class 1. Of these 5 samples, 4 were from the Private Supply to South Loftus, but as these were interspersed with Class 1 samples, the poor results could have been either temporary contamination or sampling flaws and no further action was thought to be necessary. The remaining sample was taken at the request of Cleveland Potash Limited, from their temporary supply, prior to being connected to The Tees Valley and Cleveland Water Board Mains.

The following table shews the results of samples of water taken at the point of supply to the consumer.

TABLE 2

Area of Supply	Classification
Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board	..
Supply to Loftus	- 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 1 -
Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board	..
Supply to Liverton Mines	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board	..
Supply to Liverton Village	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board	..
Supply to Skinningrove	1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1
Tees Valley & Cleveland Water Board	..
Supply to Easington	1 - 1 - 1 - 1 1 - 1 - 1
Private Supply to South Loftus	.. ..
	2 1 1 1 2 1 1 2 2 1 1 1
Temporary Supply to Boubly Potash Mine ..	- - 1 2 - - - - - - - -

Food Poisoning

7 cases of suspected food poisoning were reported by the local medical practitioners during the year and in this connection, 72 swabs were obtained from the patients concerned and other close contacts. These were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Middlesbrough for examination and in all cases, negative results were obtained.

Food Hygiene Regulations, 1965

During the year, your Inspectors carried out 105 inspections of food premises in accordance with the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1965, and 30 infringements of the regulations were noted. Of these, 25 were remedied by informal action and works have been put in hand to remedy the remaining 5.

The co-operation given to your Inspectors by the owners of food premises throughout the district has been very good during the year and the general standard of food hygiene in all food premises was found to be very high.

Food Handlers

During the year, the periodic swabbing of persons employed in the handling of food was recommenced and in this connection, 201 swabs were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for examination. All returned negative results. It is regretted that due to pressure of work at the Public Health Laboratory, the practice had to be discontinued and consequently, swabs could not be obtained from all food handlers within the district.

The following table shews the number of food premises of various types within the Urban District.

TABLE 3

	Premises	Complying		Reg 19 Applies
		with Reg 16	with Reg 19	
Butchers	4	4	4
Fishmongers	1	1	1
Grocers	21	21	21
Bakers and Confectioners	3	3	3
Sweets and General Goods	26	26	26
Canteens	8	8	8
Licensed Premises	18	18	18
Fish frying premises	5	5	5
Bakehouses	3	3	3
Greengrocers	5	5	5

Licensed Premises

There are 18 licensed premises within the area and during the year, your Inspectors carried out 41 inspections

Fish Frying

The 5 fish frying premises within the district were inspected on 17 occasions during the year, when it was noted that the standard of cleanliness and hygiene was good and the premises were well maintained

Bakehouses

There were 4 bakehouses operating within the district at the beginning of the year, but during the year, one small bakehouse ceased to operate 14 inspections were carried out and of the 9 minor infringements found during these inspections, all were remedied by informal action.

Meat Inspection

The total throughput of animals at the 2 privately owned Slaughterhouses within the district was 21,024, an increase of approximately 4.46% over the previous year. It is interesting to note that in my first Annual Report dated 1955, the total number of animals inspected at the 3 Slaughterhouses operating in the district at that time was 189, and that slaughtering within the district has increased within those 15 years to the latest figure of 21,024 animals.

Your Inspectors have maintained a 100% inspection of all meat slaughtered and in this connection, 740 visits were made.

A rota system was operated by your Inspectors to cover the Bank Holiday periods and other times when slaughtering was carried on outside normal office hours. As a result of these inspections, 4 tons 7 cwts. 66 lbs. of meat and offal were condemned as being diseased or otherwise unfit for human consumption, and the whole of this meat was subject to voluntary surrender.

Both Slaughterhouses continued to operate in a satisfactory manner during the year and as result of the co-operation between your Inspectors and the owners, it was not necessary to control the times of slaughter in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1966.

The following tables shew meat and offal inspected and condemned during the year and the reasons for condemnation.

Table, 4a — Carcasses and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep & Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	3708	67	97	11698	5454	—
Number inspected	3708	67	97	11698	5454	—
All diseases except tuberculosis and Cysticerci						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	2	6	6	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	370	47	1	185	279	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.98%	70.15%	3.09%	1.63%	5.23%	—
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	1	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	38	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	—	—	1.03%	—	0.69%	—
Cysticercosis:						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	1	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of number affected with <i>Cysticercus Bovis</i>	0.03%	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE 4b

1 Beast Head & Tongue ..	Degenerated Cyst	106 Sheep Livers	Parasitical
2 Beast Heads & Tongues ..	Actinobacillosis	1 Sheep Liver	Fatty Degeneration
2 Beast Heads & Tongues ..	Actinomycosis	10 Sheep Livers	Cirrhosis
1 Beast Tongue ..	Neoplastic Growth	45 Sheep Livers	Distomatosis
1 Beast Heart ..	Cysticercus Bovis*	1 Sheep Liver	Adhesions
1 Beast Heart ..	Pericarditis	4 Sheep Livers	Abscesses
20 Beast Hearts ..	Degenerated Cyst	38 Pig Heads ..	Tuberculosis
2 Beast Lungs ..	Pneumonia	30 Pig Heads ..	Septic Glands
3 Beast Lungs ..	Pleurisy	7 Pig Heads ..	Abscesses
1 Beast Skirting ..	Bruising	23 Pig Hearts ..	Pericarditis
1 Beast Kidney ..	Abscesses	3 Pig Lungs ..	Congestion
1 Beast Udder ..	Abscesses	6 Pig Lungs ..	Pneumonia
1 Beast Udder ..	Mastitis	2 Pig Kidneys ..	Hydronephrosis
3 Beast Stomachs ..	Inflammation	2 Sow Udders ..	Mastitis
3 Beast Intestines ..	Inflammation	15 Pig Plucks ..	Adhesions
1 Beast Liver ..	Haemangiomatosis	1 Pig Pluck ..	Parasitical
114 Beast Livers ..	Cirrhosis	11 Pig Plucks ..	Pleurisy & Pericarditis
141 Beast Livers ..	Abscesses	140 Pig Livers ..	Parasitical
15 Beast Livers ..	Telangiectasis	10 Pig Livers ..	Cirrhosis
77 Beast Livers ..	Distomatosis	58 Pig Livers ..	Milk Spot
37 Beast Livers ..	Parasitical	1 Pig Liver ..	Peritonitis
2 Sheep Hearts ..	Pericarditis	1 Calf Pluck ..	Congestion & Enlarged Liver
2 Sheep Lungs ..	Pneumonia	18 lbs. Pork ..	Bruising
1 Sheep Lung ..	Parasitical	144 lbs. Pork ..	Bone Taint
4 Sheep Lungs ..	Abscesses	136 lbs. Pork ..	Abscesses
1 Sheep Pluck ..	Abscesses	6 Pig Hocks ..	Arthritis
1 Sheep Pluck ..	Oedema	253 lbs. Beef ..	Bruising
5 Sheep Plucks ..	Parasitical	14 lbs. Beef ..	Abscesses
1 Sheep Liver ..	Peritonitis	10 lbs Beef ..	Oedema
1 Sheep Liver ..	Cystic	2lbs Beef ..	Presternum Calcification
3lbs. Mutton ..	Arthritis		
1 Carcase of Pork and all organs ..	..	Acute Fever	
1 Carcase of Pork and all organs ..	..	Multiple Abscesses	
1 Carcase of Pork and all organs ..	..	Uraemia	
3 Carcases of Pork and all organs ..	..	Septicaemia	
3 Carcases of Mutton and all organs ..	..	Extensive Bruising	

TABLE 4b—*continued*

1 Carcase of Mutton and all organs	..	Multiple Abscesses
1 Carcase of Mutton and all organs	..	Oedema
1 Carcase of Mutton and all organs	..	Septicaemia
1 Carcase of Veal and all organs	..	Generalised Tuberculosis
1 Carcase of Veal and all organs	..	Acute Fever
1 Carcase of Veal and all organs	..	Septicaemia

*The carcase of Beef, of which the heart was affected with *Cysticercus Bovis*, was submitted to cold storage for the prescribed period. It was necessary to condemn all the offal as cold storage facilities could not be provided for this.

Tinned Foods

Once again, the owners and managers of food shops within the district have co-operated with your Inspectors in connection with the voluntary surrender of tinned and other foods which were not in all respects fit for human consumption.

The following table shews the amount of tinned and other foods which were voluntary surrendered during the year

TABLE 4c

Fruit	..	1 cwt	1 qrt	10 lbs	1 oz	Preserves	..	4 lbs	0 oz
Meat	..		3 qtr	9 lbs	5 oz	Cheese	..	6 lbs	0 oz
Vegetables	..	1 cwt	1 qtr	25 lbs	0 oz	Milk	..	5 lbs	15 oz
Puddings	..		1 qtr	0 lbs	9 oz	Cereals	..	5 lbs	12 oz
Fish	..			2lbs	8 oz	Biscuits	..	1 lbs	0 oz
150 Chocolate Bars									

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

Milk Supplies

During the year, 4 samples of milk were obtained and these were submitted to the Brucella Abortus Ring Test and the Methylene Blue test. All samples passed the Methylene Blue test and returned negative results on the Brucella Abortus Ring test.

Ice Cream

There is no ice cream manufacture within the district, but 31 premises are registered for the sale of ice cream.

During the year, 2 samples of soft ice cream were obtained and were subjected to the Methylene Blue test. Both samples were classed as Grade 1.

It is not practicable to obtain many samples of this type of ice cream due to the inconvenient timetables of the soft ice cream vendors within the Loftus Urban District.

HOUSING

Housing Statistics

New Houses erected

a) By Private owners	35
b) By the Council	Nil

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year

1 (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	608
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	671
2 (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head(1)above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	Nil
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	Nil
3 Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	4
4 Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	604

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices

(1) Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit or repaired in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers	604
---	-----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the year

A Proceedings under Sections: 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices:-	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
B Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	Nil
(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices	
(a) By Owners	Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil
C Proceedings under Section 17 of the Housing Act, 1957	
(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	4
(2) Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	Nil

Housing Statistics—*continued*

D	Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18, 26 and 35, Housing Act, 1957		
(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	Nil	
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil	
4.	Housing Act, 1936, & Part 4, Overcrowding		
	No accurate figures are available		
5.	Housing Act, 1949, and Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954 and 1957		
(1)	(a) Number of Improvement Grants made — Standard Discretionary	30	11
	(b) Number of Improvement Grants refused	17*	
(2)	(a) Number of Certificates of Disrepair granted	Nil	
	(b) Number of Certificates of Disrepair revoked	Nil	

In connection with the Improvement Grants shewn in Paragraph 5 of the foregoing table, it is interesting to note that since the system of improvement grants was instituted, approximately 19.85% of pre-war houses in Loftus have been improved with the aid of a grant

*The 17 improvement grants which were refused all related to houses in the Skinnin-grove area which are on the Council's Clearance Programme for the next 5 years

Sanitary Circumstances of the District

The following table shews the inspection for Nuisances which have been carried out by my department during the year. These inspections do not include inspections made under the Housing Acts, but include all inspections, other than food inspections, made during the year

Nuisances

TABLE 5

Total number of inspections made for nuisances only ..	157
Nuisances found	76
Nuisances in hand end of previous year	2
	—
Total needing abatement	78
Abated during the year	78
Outstanding at end of year	Nil
	—
Notices served — Informal 76	Complied with .. 76
Notices served — Statutory Nil	Complied with .. Nil
Number of summonses or legal proceedings — Nil	

Regulated Buildings, Trades, Etc.

There are no common lodging houses, houses let in lodgings, knackers' yards, or other offensive trades within the Urban District

Byelaws in Force in the District

There are no Byelaws in force in the district

Sanitary Accommodation

It is estimated that 2,859 houses within the Urban District are now on water carriage system. This figure includes 1 conversion to this system carried out during the year. Of the remaining 21 houses without water carriage system, 10 houses are accessible to a sewer, but the remaining 11 houses have no sewer available at the present time.

In connection with the 10 houses with a sewer available, plans have been submitted for the conversion of 1 property, an application for a Conversion Grant has been submitted in connection with 1 property, 1 property is unoccupied, 1 property is owner occupied and, at the present time, discussions are taking place between my department and the owners of the remaining 6 properties with a view to the conversions being carried out.

It is again interesting to note that in my Annual Report for 1955, the total number of houses within the Urban District without water carriage system was 378 and in the 15 year period, 357 houses have been converted to water carriage system, by the co-operation of property owners and without recourse to law.

Sewerage and Sewerage Disposal

There were no complaints received regarding fouling of the beaches by the disposal of sewage direct to the sea during the year.

In addition to the normal works of maintenance and the removal of obstructions from the various sewers within the district, maintenance work was also carried out to the base of the sewer beacon and the concrete surround to the main sewer at Skinningrove and major repair works were carried out at the junction of the West End Sewer and the main sewer in Whitecliff Beck.

It was not possible to commence works in connection with the provision of a sewer to Liverton Village as the future use of the land along the line of this sewer has not yet been finalised.

Advice regarding drainage layouts and the use of septic tanks is freely given to property owners and builders, and all new drainage work is inspected and tested before back-filling of the trenches takes place. In this connection, co-operation between local contractors engaged on drainage works and my department continues to be very good.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

The weekly collection of refuse was maintained throughout the year but in order to maintain this service, it was necessary to use additional transport and men to compensate for time lost during Bank Holiday periods.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on the Deepdale refuse tip, which has been maintained in a satisfactory condition throughout the year. Difficulties have been experienced from time to time by unauthorised persons gaining access to the tip, and lighting fires along the tip face. As a result of the increased amounts of non-returnable containers and paper collected with the refuse, these fires have sometimes proved difficult to extinguish quickly, but due to the isolated position of the refuse tip and the direction of prevailing winds, no complaints have been received during the year from householders of nuisance caused by smoke from these fires.

All refuse from the 2 private slaughterhouses is collected by private contractors. Consequently, nuisance caused by this type of refuse on the refuse tip is avoided.

Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963

During the year, 1 new office was registered in accordance with the Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act, 1963, bringing the total number of premises registered to 89.

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of Premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	1	16	7
Retail Shops	Nil	54	45
Catering Establishments open to the public, canteens	Nil	19	19
Wholesale Shops Warehouses	Nil	Nil	Nil
Storage depots	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	1	89	71
Total number of visits of all kinds by Inspectors to registered premises under the Act			124

During the year, a total of 124 inspections were carried out and 37 contraventions of the Act were noted by your Inspectors. The total number of contraventions dealt with during the year, including the 91 outstanding from 1969, was 128, of which 73 were remedied by informal action.

The following table shews an analysis of these contraventions and the works remedied and in hand at the end of the year

Section	Defect	Previous Year	Notified	Remedied	In Hand
4	Cleanliness	—	8	3	5
6	Temperature	16	2	14	4
8	Lighting	23	7	15	15
9	Sanitary Conveniences	5	3	5	3
10	Washing Facilities	8	1	5	4
11	Drinking Water	—	—	—	—
12	Clothing Accommodation	1	—	1	—
13	Sitting Facilities	—	—	—	—
15	Eating Facilities	—	—	—	—
16	Floors, Passages & Stairs	12	8	8	12
17	Fencing of Machinery	—	1	—	1
24	First Aid	6	—	6	—
50	Abstract of the Act	20	7	16	11
	TOTAL	91	37	73	55

It will be noted from the aforesaid table that there is a decrease in the number of works in hand over the previous year and whilst this number is still higher than would be desired, there has been a general improvement in all premises since the commencement of the Act and the overall position relating to premises within the Urban District is good in comparison with other authorities throughout the country

Moveable Dwellings

There is now only 1 licensed caravan site in the area. This is seasonal and operates from 1st April to the 31st October each year. 5 inspections of this site were carried out during the year and it was found to be well maintained and operating in a satisfactory manner.

In addition, at the beginning of the year, there were 3 unlicensed caravans within the district. In all cases, these were situated within the curtilage, and used in connection with the dwellinghouse occupied by the owner of the caravan. 2 of these caravans were removed during the year and no complaints of nuisance caused by the remaining caravan were received.

Work has been commenced on the provision of septic tank and amenity block on the proposed caravan site at Crinkle Lane, but the site has not yet been brought into use and formal application for a licence to site caravans on the land has not yet been made.

Public Conveniences

Damage during the year was considerable, due to the attention of vandals, and it has been necessary to renew W.C. pedestals, sections of water pipe, ball valves, internal door locks and doors and even with daily cleaning, it is becoming almost impossible to maintain these buildings to a standard which the general public, including visitors to the area, would desire.

Snow Clearance

As a result of a much milder winter in this area, less time was spent on snow clearing than is normal, but it was still necessary for these works to be carried out on a number of weekends, in addition to normal working hours.

The rota system was again operated by your Inspectors throughout the winter months and especially at weekends. This ensured that icy conditions on all roads received prompt attention. In connection with this system, I would like to thank the Forecaster Officers at the Meteorological Office at Newcastle for their co-operation in providing early forecasts of adverse weather conditions, and the local Police, for their early notification of unforeseen icy conditions on roads during the period midnight to 7 a.m., both of which assisted your Inspectors in ensuring that the main highways in Loftus were kept as free from snow or ice as was practically possible.

Clean Air Act

During the year, 35 observations were made of industrial chimneys in the area and in no case was black smoke found to be emitted.

The 2 atmospheric pollution deposit gauges were in use for the whole of the year, and whilst the readings were higher than normal for part of the year, this was due to technical difficulties on the blast furnace at Skinningrove Ironworks.

The smoke filter apparatus situated in the Council Offices at Loftus was also in use for the whole of the year, for the registration of smoke concentration and the determination of the sulphur dioxide content. The readings obtained were normal for the type of situation in which this machine operates.

TABLE 6
Atmospheric Pollution Tests

DEPOSIT GUAGE, SKINNINGROVE				DEPOSIT GUAGE, CARLIN HOW				
Month	pH Value	Rainfall	Undissolved Matter	Fe ₂ O ₃	pH Value	Rainfall	Undissolved Matter	Fe ₂ O ₃
Jan.	5.8	2.48	16.33	6.08	6.3	2.02	25.20	8.98
Feb.	7.0	1.76	41.10	22.40	7.1	2.32	50.80	19.60
Mar.	6.6	2.26	46.40	26.30	6.7	2.64	68.20	25.50
April	6.9	1.91	26.90	4.91	6.2	2.14	47.70	21.70
May	6.6	1.59	36.40	20.40	6.9	1.29	105.90	40.10
June	6.0	0.47	21.00	9.69	6.7	0.48	61.10	34.10
July	6.5	2.64	25.30	10.32	6.1	2.41	52.80	9.02
Aug.	5.8	2.69	20.60	9.55	6.4	2.17	63.10	27.70
Sept.	5.1	0.66	3.74	1.57	4.5	0.62	30.80	13.33
Oct.	5.5	1.60	22.70	7.85	6.0	1.85	137.30	45.80
Nov.	5.0	3.64	14.16	5.58	5.6	3.25	52.80	20.70
Dec.	6.2	2.86	10.59	4.81	5.6	2.74	26.40	10.90

Smoke Filter Loftus

Month	Highest Value	Lowest Value	Average	Sulphur Dioxide Average
Jan	272	23	95	84
Feb.	234	26	102	85
Mar.	143	22	71	73
April	135	24	62	57
May	90	11	40	36
June	44	4	21	31
July	45	7	25	27
Aug.	63	8	28	30
Sept.	65	8	34	34
Oct.	122	15	51	56
Nov.	183	31	87	48
Dec.	206	28	92	54

Civic Amenities Act, 1967

Informal action has been taken under the provisions of the above mentioned Act in respect of 23 abandoned motor vehicles. Of these, 19 were removed by the respective owners. A considerable amount of work is involved in investigating ownership of this type of vehicle.

Petroleum (Regulations Act, 1928 & 1936)

Licensing of petrol storage installations under the provisions of the above mentioned Act is carried out by this Authority and 12 licenses were renewed. These included one for the storage of petrol in cans, 3 for the storage of petrol on farms, 2 for the storage of petrol in connection with transport undertakings and 6 for the storage of petrol at filling stations. During the year, the storage of petrol at 2 farms and 2 filling stations was discontinued and the underground tanks were made safe in accordance with the conditions of the licence.

32 inspections were carried out at these installations.

Factories Act, 1961

The following tables shew the details required by the Factories Act, 1961.

TABLE 7a

1. Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	No. of written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(I) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	—	—
(II) Factories not included in (I) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	13	25	—	—
(III) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises) ..	7	23	—	—
TOTAL	21	50	Nil	Nil

TABLE 7b

2. Cases in which defects were found

Number of cases in which defects were found

	Found (1)	Remedied (2)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	by H.M. Inspector (5)	Number of cases in which Prosecutions were instituted (6)
Cleanliness (S1)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Temperature (S3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ventilation (S4)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Con veniences (S7)	2	2	Nil	Nil	Nil

Rodent Control

During the year, in addition to treatments against rats and mice, your Rodent Operative carried out the following treatments in dwellinghouses:- Fleas (5), Bees (2), Cockroaches (1) and Bed bugs (1).

The following treatments were carried out in gardens adjacent to dwellinghouses:- Wasps (2) and Earwigs (1).

In addition, I treatment was carried out in business premises against fleas.

All these treatments were successful.

The following table shews the inspections, surveys and treatments carried out during the year.

TABLE 8

Type of Property	
Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
51	12
38	12
13	—
62	17
7	3
—	—

I would again offer my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, Dr. T. M. B. Rohan, Medical Officer of Health and Mr. T. C. Ellison, Clerk of the Council, whose interest and help greatly eased the running of the department.

Mr. W. Murray, Deputy Surveyor and Additional Public Health Inspector and Mr. A. S. Kirkwood, Assistant Surveyor and Additional Public Health Inspector have ably and willingly supported me during the year and Miss K. M. Morris has dealt with the office side of the department, not always an easy task. For their work and for the very good atmosphere of co-operation which exists in the department, I offer them my sincere thanks. I also very much appreciate the loyal and willing service of all outside staff.

I am, Mesdames and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

W. C. RANSON

Surveyor and Public Health Inspector

J. E. FORD & SON
Printers
LOFTUS
1701
